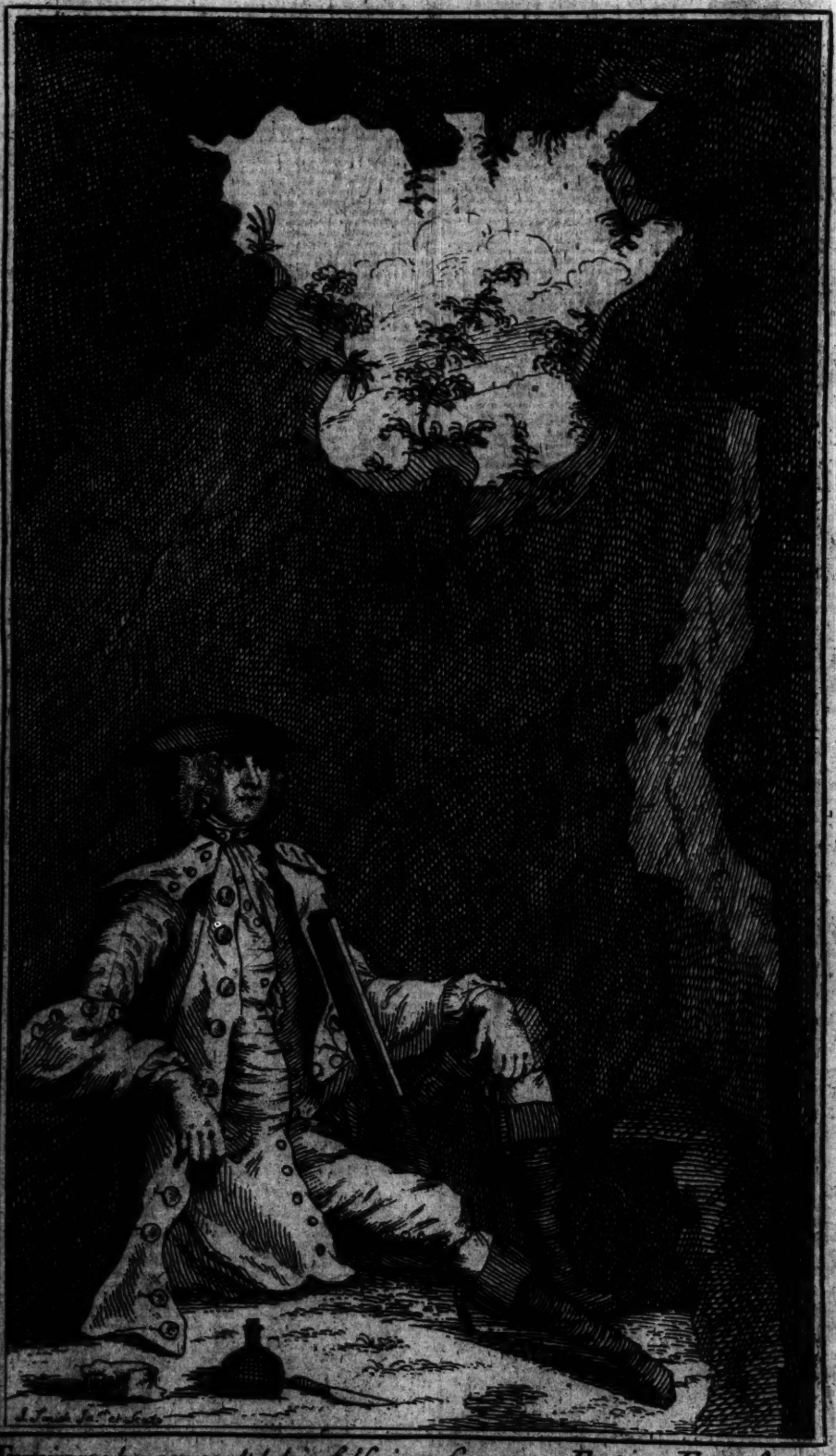
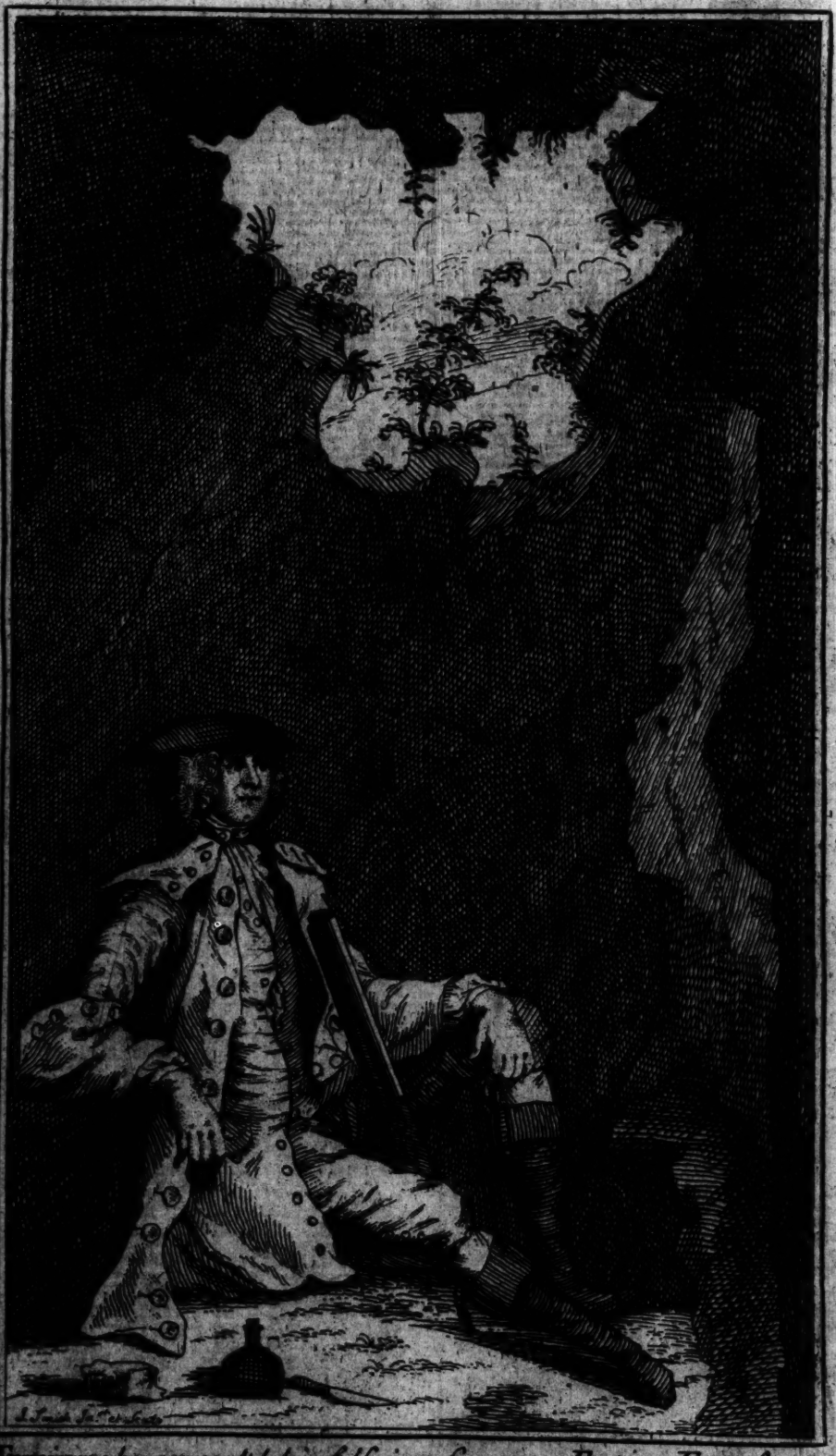


Turpin as he conceal'd himself in a Cave on Epping Forrest.



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Richard Turpin, &c.

[Sixpence.]

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BRITISH MUSEUM
11 OCT 55

The GENUINE

HISTORY

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LIFE

OF

RICHARD TURPIN,

The noted Highwayman,

Who was Executed at *York* for Horſe-ſtealing, under the Name of *John Palmer*, on *Saturday Ap.* 7, 1739.

I. A True Narrative of the Tranſactions from his Birth to his Marriage and ſettling at Suſon as a Butcher.

I. An Account of his being a Smugler in the Hundreds of Eſſex; his turning Dear-ſtealer; his Exploits with Gregory, Fielder, Roſe, Wheeler, and the reſt of the Eſſex Gang.

III. His breaking from that Gang, and an humorous Adventure, by Means of which he got acquainted with King.

VI. Of his being purſued in Whitechapple by Mr. Bayes, where he ſhot his Companion King by Miſtake.

V. A particular Account and Deſcription of their Cave, with the Robberies they committed in thoſe Parts; and Turpin's ſhooting Mr. Thompſon's Man.

VI. An Account of his Exploits in Lincolnſhire and Yorkſhire, with the Manner of his being Apprehended.

VII. A Summary Account of his Trial at York Aſſizes; his Behaviour in Gaol and at the Place of Execution.

VIII. The Depoſitions of two Gentlemen out of Eſſex to prove him to be Richard Turpin.

IX. Copies of Letters from his Father to him and his Brother.

The Whole collected from well atteſted Facts, and communicated by Mr. *Richard Bayes*, at the *Green-Man* on *Epping-Foreſt*, and other Perſons of that County.

LONDON:

Printed for *J. Standen*, at *D'Anvers's* Head oppoſite *Serjeants-Inn* in *Chancery-Lane*. 1739.

[Price Six Pence.]

The GENUINE HISTORY OF THE LIFE OF RICHARD TURPIN

BRITISH MUSEUM 11 55 OCT 1930

The notorious Highway-man,

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II. An Account of his being a Smuggler in the Hundred of Hex; his buying Dear Bullen, his Exploits with Gregory, Tiddeder, Nicks, Wheeler, and the rest of the Essex Gang.

III. His Breaking from that Gang, and an Humorous Adventure, by Means of which he got acquainted with King.

VI. Of his being purfu'd in Whitechapple by Mr. Mayes, where he shot his Companion King by Mistake.

V. A particular Account and Description of their Cave, with the Robberies they committed in those Parts, and Turpin's Flight.

VI. An Account of his Exploits in Lincolnshire and Yorkshire, with the Manner of his being Apprehended.

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[Price Six Pence.]

THE LIFE OF *RICHARD TURPIN.*

IT is ſuppos'd the World naturally enquires after Perſons that have in any Manner been render'd either Famous, or Infamous; for which Reaſon we think the Account of a Man who for ſome time paſt hath been not only the *Terror* but *Talk* of a County that makes a conſiderable Figure in this Nation, cannot be diſagreeable. *ESSEX* hath been lately much alarm'd at the Enterprizes of *Turpin*, ſeveral Families have ſuffer'd by him, and others, of *Gregory*'s Gang, as our enſuing Narration will relate.

Richard Turpin, who was executed at *York* on *Saturday* the 7th of *April*, 1739; was Son of *John Turpin* of *Hempſted* in *Eſſex*, who put him to School to one *Smith* a Writing-Maſter; from thence he was plac'd Apprentice to a *Butcher* in *Whitechapple*, where he ſerv'd his Time; he was frequently guilty of Miſde-

meanours, and behav'd in a looſe diſorderly Manner: So ſoon as he came out of his Time he married the Daughter of one *Palmer*, and ſet up for himſelf at *Suſon* in *Eſſex*, which is about Eleven or Twelve Years ago; where (not having any Credit in the Markets, and No-body caring to truſt him) he was reduc'd to a Neceſſity of maintaining himſelf by indirect Practices, and accordingly very often us'd to rob the neighbouring Gentlemen of Sheep, Lambs, Oxen, *&c.* particularly one Time he ſtole a Couple of Oxen from Mr. *Giles* of *Plaiſtow*, which he had convey'd to his own Houſe and cut up, but was detected by Two of the Gentleman's Servants, who having a Suſpicion of him, from ſome Information or other which they had received, went to his Houſe, and ſeeing an Ox ſlaughter'd were confirm'd in their Suſpicions, but in order to be further aſſur'd, enquir'd where *Turpin* ſold the Hides of his Beaſts and being inform'd, that he generally ſold 'em at *Waltham-Abbey*, they went there, and were convinc'd on ſight of the Hides, that *Turpin* was the Man who had ſtole the Oxen, and immediately return'd to *Suſon*, which he being appris'd of, left them in the Fore-room, jump'd out of a Window and made his Eſcape, when he was gone, his Wife diſpos'd of the Carcaſſes.

Turpin having made his Eſcape from Juſtice for that Time tho' by this means his Character was blown and he never could entertain a Thought of returning to *Suſon*, or following his Trade of a *Butcher* in that County, he immediately form'd a Deſign of commencing *Smugler*; for which Reaſon, his Wife having ſupplied him with what ſmall Matter of Money ſhe could raiſe, he took his way to the Hundreds of *Eſſex*, where he had not ſtaid long before he got into a Gang of Smuglers, he follow'd his new Profeſſion for ſome time with tolerable Succeſs; but at laſt Fortune took a Turn, and he loſt all that he had acquir'd; upon which not caring to run any more Hazards, he thought it proper to try his Luck ſome other way: When People are inclinable

to Vice they ſeldom wait long for Opportunities, which was the Caſe with him, for no ſooner had he left off Smuggling than he met with a Gang of Deer-ſtealers, who finding him to be a Deſperate Fellow, and ripe for any Miſchief, made no ſcruple of admitting him to be One of 'em; but the Hundreds of *Eſſex* not being ſo proper for them as the other Part of the Country, they concluded to come up nearer to Town and the Foreſt, which they accordingly did, and robb'd not only the Foreſt of Deer but ſeveral Gentlemen's Parks, and by that means got a conſiderable Sum of Money; 'twas *Turpin*'s being engag'd in this Gang that he got acquainted with *Gregory*, *Fielder*, *Roſe* and *Wheeler*, and the reſt, which was afterwards call'd the *Eſſex* Gang; they follow'd Deer-ſtealing only for ſome time, but beginning to be too well known by the Keepers, and not finding Money come in ſo faſt as they expected, they form'd themſelves into a Body by *Turpin*'s Directions, and reſolv'd to go round the County at Nights, and whatever Houſe they knew had any thing of Value in it, one was to knock at the Door, which as ſoon as it was open'd, the others ruſh'd in and plunder'd the Houſe; nor were they content to take the Money, Plate, Watches or Rings, but even Houſhold Goods, if they found any they lik'd. In ſhort, about five or ſix Years ago to ſuch a Pitch were they grown, that they were a Terror not only to the whole County of *Eſſex*, but to all the neighbouring Counties, as may be known by the Uſage Farmer *Lawrence* met with from 'em, whom they robb'd of almoſt all he had, and then debauch'd his Servant Maid. The firſt Perſon who was ſo unhappy as to be ſerv'd by them in this Manner was one Mr. *Strype*, an Old Man that keeps a Chandler's Shop at *Watford*; from whom they took what little Money he had ſcrap'd together, but did him no further Miſcheif, ſo that he was in ſome meaſure content; but they did not behave in the ſame Manner to every one, for their next Attempt was upon a Widow Gentlewoman that lives at

Loughton,

Loughton, which was a Scheme of *Turpin*'s; for he acquainted the Gang that he knew an old Woman at *Loughton*, that he was ſure had ſeven or eight Hundred Pounds by her, and *D—n* her, ſays he, 'tis as good in our Pockets as hers, and we'll have it. Accordingly the Time was fixt for the Enterprize, and they all ſet out; when they got to *Loughton*, *Wheeler*, (who upon thoſe Occaſions never went into the Houſe with them, but was plac'd as a Scout at the Door) 'twas agreed that he ſhould knock at the Door, which ſo ſoon as he had done *Turpin* and his Companions all ruſh'd in, and the firſt thing they did was to bind the old Lady, her Son, her Man and Maid; then *Turpin* began to examine her where her Money and Effects were hid, telling her at the ſame Time that he knew ſhe had Money, and 'twas in vain to deny it, for have it they would; the old Gentlewoman being very loth to part with her Money, perſiſted in it that ſhe had none, and would not declare any thing more of the Matter. Upon which ſome of the Crew were inclinable to believe her, and were ſorry for their Diſappointment, but *Turpin* as ſtrenuouſly inſiſting ſhe had Money as ſhe did that ſhe had none, at laſt cried, *G—d d—n your Blood, you Old B—h, if you won't tell us I'll ſet your bare A---ſe on the Grate.* She continued Obſtinate for all that imagining he meant only to threaten her and to very fond ſhe was of her darling Gold, that ſhe even ſuffer'd herſelf to be ſerv'd as he had declar'd, and endur'd it for ſome time; till the Anguiſh at laſt forc'd her to diſcover, which when ſhe had done; they took her off the Grate indeed, and robb'd her of all they could find; ſome Perſons talk of a much larger Sum, but 'tis certain they ſtole upwards of four hundred Pounds.

The next Place they robb'd was at *Ripple-Side* near *Barking*, a Farmer's, where the People of the Houſe not coming to the Door ſo ſoon as they wanted 'em, they broke it open; they firſt of all, according to their uſual Cuſtom, tied the Old Man, the Old Woman,

Woman, the Servant Maid, and a Son in Law of the Old Farmer's coming in unluckily they likewiſe ſecur'd them; they afterwards ranſack'd the Houſe, and in Money and Things robb'd the old Farmer of about ſeven hundred Pounds. *Turpin* finding their Booty ſo conſiderable, with an Oath, cried out, *Ay! this will do, if it would be alway ſo.* —— For by this Enterprize the whole Gang ſhar'd about eighty Pounds a Man.

Turpin, fluſh'd with this Succeſs, encourag'd his Companions to proceed in their Villanies, to be reveng'd on ſeveral who had endeavour'd to detect them. Among ſeveral others, *Maſon* the Keeper upon *Epping-Foreſt* was pitch'd upon to feel the Effect of their reſentments; for upon Conſultation what they ſhould do next, ſays *Turpin*, there's *Will. Maſon* has us'd two or three of us ill, and we'll be reveng'd on him; accordingly a Time was fix'd when they ſhou'd go and attack his Houſe; *Turpin* having ſhar'd ſo much Money could not refrain from coming to *London* for Pleaſure, and by getting drunk, forgot the Appointment with his Companions, and never went near 'em; they waited for him a long Time, but finding he did not come, they determin'd not to be baulk'd in their Deſigns, and *Fielder* and *Roſe* taking upon themſelves to command in the Expedition; they all ſet out to *Maſon*'s, having firſt bound themſelves in an Oath not to leave one whole piece of Goods in the Houſe. Accordingly having broke open the Door, they beat and abuſed *Maſon* in a moſt terrible Manner, and when they had beat him as they thought enough, they kick'd him under the Dreſſer and there left him; the old Man was ſitting by the Fire, but upon declaring he knew none of 'em, when they asked him, they did not meddle with him. *Maſon*'s little Girl in her Fright got out of Bed, and without any Cloaths ran into the Hog-ſtie and there hid herſelf; they then went up Stairs and broke every Thing they could lay Hands on, and

at

at laſt 'ſpying a Punch-bowl that ſtood a little out of the way, they broke that, and out dropt a hundred an twenty Guineas, which they took after they had done as much Miſchief as they poſſibly could, they went away very well ſatisfied.

On *Saturday* the 11th of *January* 1735, at ſeven or eight o'Clock in the evening, *Turpin*, *Fielder*, *Walker*, and three others came to the Door of Mr. *Saunders*, a wealthy Farmer at *Charlton* in *Kent*, and knocked at the Door, enquired if Mr. *Saunders* was at Home; being anſwered he was, the Door, being opened, they all ruſh'd in, went directly to the Parlour, where Mr. *Saunders*, his Wife, and ſome Friends were at Cards; deſired them not to be frightened, for that they would not hurt their Perſons, if they ſat ſtill, and made no Diſturbance. The firſt thing they laid hands on was a ſilver ſnuff-box which lay upon the table before them and having ſecur'd the reſt of the company, obliged Mr. *Saunders* to go about the houſe with them, and open his cloſets, and boxes, and ſcrutore, from whence they took upwards of one hundred pounds, in money, and all the plate ia the houſe, a velvet hood, manteel, and other things. Whilſt this was doing the ſervant-maid got looſe and ran up ſtairs, barred her ſelf into one of the rooms, and called out at the window for aſſiſtances, in hopes of alarming the neighbourhood; but one of the rogues ran up ſtairs after her, and with a poker broke open the door; then brought her down again, bound her and all the reſt of the family, then rifled the houſe of divers other things of value; and finding in their ſearch ſome bottles of wine, a bottle of brandy and mince-pies; they all ſat down, drank a bottle of wine, eat a mince-pie, and obliged the company to drink a dram of brandy each. And Mrs. *Saunders* fainting away with the fright, they got her a glaſs of water, and put ſome drops in it, and gave her, and were very careful to recover her from her fright. They ſtaid about two hours in the houſe, before they pack'd up

their

their plunder, and marched off with it. But threatened them, that if they ſtirred within two houts, or advertis'd the marks of the mare, they would murther them. When they concerted this robbery, they met at the George at *Woolwich*, in order to go from thence to put their intentions in execution. And after they had effected their deſign, they croſs'd the water, and brought the goods to an empty houſe in *Ratcliff* highway, where they divided their plunder.

On *Saturday* the 8th of *January Turpin*, *Fielder*, *Walker*, and two others, made an appointment to rob Mr. *Sheldon*'s houſe near *Croydon* in *Surrey*, and for that purpoſe, agreed to meet at the half moon tavern at *Croydon*, which they accordingly did in the evening about 6 o'clock, and about 7 went to Mr. *Sheldon*'s, *Walker* having ſome knowledge of the houſe, going at the head of his companions into the yard, perceived a light in the ſtable, went thither, where they found the coachman dreſſing the horſes, him they bound, and going from thence met Mr *Sheldon* in the yard whom they ſeized, and compelled him to ſhew them the way into the houſe; whereas ſoon as they entered, they bound Mr. *Sheldon*, and the reſt of the family, and fell to plundering the houſe; and took from Mr. *Sheldon* eleven guineas, and ſeveral pieces of plate, jewels, and ſome other things of value, which they carried off with them; but before they left the place, they returned Mr. *Sheldon* two guineas of the money back again; asked pardon for what they had done, and bid him good night.

On *Tueſday* the 4th of *Feb. Turpin*, *Gregory*, *Fielder*, *Roſe* and *Wheeler* having formed a deſign to rob Mr. *Lawrence*, at *Edgware-bury* near *Stanmore* in *Middleſex*, about two o'clock in the afternoon, met at the black horſe in the broad way *Weſtminſter*, near which *Roſe* and *Fielder* lodged, and ſet out from thence on horſeback to the nine-pin and bowl at *Edgware*, where they had appointed

to

to meet about 5 o'clock, where they ſtaid until five; during which time their horſes ſtaid in the yard, by which means Mr. *Wood* who keeps the houſe, had the better opportunity of obſerving the horſes, ſo as to remember the ſame again, when he ſaw them afterwards in *King-ſtreet* in *Bloomsbury* where they were taken. About five o'clock they went from Mr. *Wood*'s at the Queen's head at *Stanmore*, and ſtaid there, from about ſix until about ſeven o'clock; and then all went away together for Mr. *Lawrence*'s, which was about a mile from thence, where they got about half an hour after ſeven: Mr. *Lawrence* had but juſt before been paying off ſome workmen, who were diſcharged and gone from the houſe: On their arrival at Mr. *Lawrence*'s, they alighted from their horſes at the outer-gate; and *Fielder* getting over the hatch into the Sheep-yard, met with Mr. *Lawrence*'s boy juſt putting up ſome ſheep; him they ſeiz'd, and preſenting a piſtol to him, *Fielder* ſaid he would ſhoot him if he offered to cry out, and then took off the boy's garters, and ty'd his hands, and enquiring of him what ſervants Mr. *Lawrence* kept, and who was in the houſe, they obliged him to tell them; they told him they would not hurt him, but that he muſt go to the door with them, and when they knocked at it, if any body within ſhould ask, who it was, that the boy was to anſwer, and bid them open the door to let him in, and that would give him ſome money; accordingly they led the boy to the door, but he was ſo terrify'd that he had no power to ſpeak; whereupon *Gregory* knock'd at the door, and calling out Mr. *Lawrence*, the man-ſervant apprehending it to be ſome of the neighbours only, open'd the door, upon which they all ruſh'd in with piſtols in their hands, crying out, *D——n your blood, how long have you liv'd here*; and immediately ſeizing Mr. *Lawrence* and his man, threw a cloth over their faces, then took the boy and led him into the next room, with his hands ty'd, and ſetting him down by the fire examin'd

him

him what fire-arms Mr *Lawrence* had in the house and being told there was none but an old gun, they went and fetch'd that, and broke it in pieces, then took Mr. *Lawrence*'s man, and bound his hands led him into the room where the boy was, and made him sit down there; and also bound Mr. *Lawrence*; *Turpin* broke down his breeches, and they fell to rifling his pockets, out of which they took one Guinea, one *Portugal* piece of thirty-six shillings, and about fifteen shillings in silver, and his keys: They said that money was not enough, they must have more, and drove Mr. *Lawrence* up stairs, where coming to a closet, although they had taken the key from Mr. *Lawrence* before, and had it in their custody, yet they broke open the door, and took out thence two guineas, ten shillings in silver, a silver cup, thirteen silver spoons, two gold rings, and what they could find; and in their search meeting with a bottle of *Elder* Wine, they took it, and oblig'd the servants to drink twice of it. *Dorothy Street*, the maid servant, being in the back-house a churning, and hearing a noise, suspected they were rogues who where got into the house; and in order to save herself she put out the candle, but they rush'd in upon her, ty'd her hands, and then brought her into the room, where the other servants were; then rifled the house of all they could get, as linnen, table-cloths, napkins, shirts, and the sheets from off the beds, trod the beds under feet, to find if any money was conceal'd therein, and suspecting there was more money in the house, they brought Mr. *Lawrence* down stairs again, threatned to cut his throat, and *Rose* put a knife to it, as if he intended to do it. To make him confess what money was in the house; then whip'd him with their hands as hard as they could. One of them took a chopping-bill, and threatned to cut off his leg therewith, then the broke his head with their pistols, and dragg'd him about by the hair of the head. One of them took a kettle of water off of the fire, and flung it upon him, but it did him no other harm

than wetting him only, by Reaſon the Maid had juſt before taken out the greateſt Part of the boyling Water and filled it again up with cold. Then they hauled him about again, ſwore they would rip him up and burn him alive, if he did not tell where the reſt of his Money was; then they proceeded to make a further Search, and *Gregory* ſwore to the Maid, that ſhe ſhould ſhew him where the Money was, ſhe told him ſhe did not know of any; but he compelled her to go up Stairs, took her into the Garret, bolted the Door, threw her upon the Bed, ſwore he would ſhoot her if ſhe offered to cry out, and then lay with her by Force and Violence; after which he told her they would go to her Maſters Son's Houſe, which was next adjoining. In their Search beſides the before mentionee Particulars, they met with a Cheſt of one of Mr. *Lawrence*'s Sons (who happened to be gone abroad in the Morning and was not returned) which they broke open, and took thereout twenty Pounds in Money and all his Linnen then they enquired of the Boy, whether Mr. *Lawrence*'s Son would come home that Night, and being informed that he would, they ſaid they would go and rob his other Sons Houſe, and obliged the Boy to go with them to the Door thereof, but on further Conſideration did not go in, but threatned to come again in half an Hour, and that if they then found any Body looſe they would kill them, ſo lock'd them all in the Parlour, then took the Key of the Door and threw it into the Garden. Some of the Goods were afterwards found in *Duck lane*, and others in *Thieving-Lane*, were *Loſe* and *Walker* were taken.

Although in this Robbery they got about 26 l. in Money, in the Whole, beſides Plate and Goods, yet they made no fair Diſtribution of it amongſt themſelves, for to *Wheeler* the Evidence, who was ſet to watch Mr. *Lawrence* and his Servants, whilſt the others were rifling the Houſe; his Companions pretended, they had only got three Guineas in the Whole, and about ſix Shillings and ſix Pence in Silver.

These frequent Robberies being committed in so daring a Manner, induced his Majesty to advertise in the *Gazette*, a Pardon to any one of the Criminals who had been concerned in and entering the House of *Joseph Lawrence* Senior, at *Earlesbury* near *Edgware*, and in binding him, his Man and Maid Servant, and using the said Mr. *Lawrence* in a barbarous and inhuman Manner, and in ravishing the Maid. And also as a farther Encouragement, promised a Reward of 50 l. for every one of the Criminals, who should be discovered and apprehended, to be paid upon the Conviction of the Offender or Offenders.

Notwithstanding which, on the seventh of *February*, *Richard Turpin*, *John Fielder*, *Joseph Rose*, *Humphry Walker*, *William Bush*, and *Samuel Gregory*, together with *John Wheeler*, met by appointment at *Whitebart*-Inn, at the upper end of *Drury-lane* about five o'clock in the evening, where they agreed upon making an attempt to rob Mr. *Francis* a Farmer near *Mary-bone*; and about half an hour after six, they set out from thence for *Marybone*, where they arrived about half an hour after seven; and whilst they were making their observations of the house, one of them perceiving some body in the cow-house, they went thither and finding one of the men servants there, they seized him and bound him; swearing, they would shoot him if he cried out, or made any noise; and then carried him into the stable where was another of Mr. *Francis*'s men, whom they seized and bound also. Scarce had they done that, before Mr. *Francis* who had been abroad, and coming home, they met him at the gate as he was going up to his door, three of them laying their hands upon his head, Mr. *Francis* not apprehending them to be rogues, but done in a frolick, only said to them, methinks you are mighty funny, gentlemen; on which they presented their pistols to him, and swore they would shoot him if he made opposition or disturbance, and seizing him by the arms, led him into the stable to his men, where they bound him,

and left them under the care of *Turpin* and *Bush*, who ſtood over them with loaded piſtols, whilſt the other five went to the houſe, and knocking at the door, Mr. *Francis*'s daughter opened it, ſuppoſing it to be ſome of their men: but as ſoon as the door was opened, *Wheeler* and the other four ruſhed in, and preſenting their piſtols at her, threatened to ſhoot her if ſhe made any diſturbance; which the maid hearing, cried out, Lord, Mrs. *Sarah* what have you done? On which one of them ſtruck the maid, and the other ſtruck Mr. *Francis*'s daughter, and ſwore they would murder them if they did not hold their peace. Mrs. *Francis* hearing the diſturbance, and being apprehenſive of ſome danger, cried out, Lord, what's the matter? on which *Fielder* ſtep'd up to her, and cry'd, D——m you for an old bitch, I'll ſtop your mouth preſently and immediately broke her head with the handle of his whip, and then tied her down in a chair, bleeding as ſhe was. The maid and daughter were bound in the kitchen, and *Gregory* was ſet to watch them, who ſtood guard over them with a piſtol in his hand, to prevent their crying out for aſſiſtance, or endeavouring to get their liberty whilſt the other four were rifling the houſe; in it they found, beſides other things a ſilver tankard a gold watch, chain and ſeal a ſilver picture of king Charles I. waſh'd with gold, a ſilver punch-ladle, a ſilver ſtrainer, a ſilver cup, and a pair of ſilver ſpurs, a coral ſet in ſilver, a mourning gold ring with a cypher, a gold ring enamell'd with a blue ſtone in the middle, and a diamond on each ſide, and two angels holding a crown, a gold ring ſet with diamonds, a gold ring ſet with a ſtone, and four diamonds, two gold rings with poſies, a wig, ſix handkerchiefs, four ſhirts a velvit hat, two piſtols, a piece of gold with a hole in it, thirty ſeven guineas and ten pounds in ſilver, which they took away with them; as alſo ſhirts, ſtockings, and divers other ſorts of goods, but here as they had done before, they cheated one another, for except-

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ing the goods, they divided only 9*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* amongſt them, (the guineas were ſecreted by him that had laid hands on them from the reſt of his companions.) They ſpent about an hour and a half in plundering and rifling the houſe, whilſt *Gregory* ſtood centry over old Mrs. *Francis*, her daughter and maid; and *Turpin* and *Buſh* over Mr. *Francis* and the two men ſervants in the ſtable, when they had pack'd up their plunder, they threatened the family, that if they made any outcry, they would come back and murther them, and then march'd off with what they had got.

They had alſo formed a deſign to rob the houſe of juſtice *Aſher* near *Leigh* in *Eſſex*, upon the information of the woman who kept company with *Roſe*, and with that intention met at a publick houſe near *Leigh*, and in the evening went to put their deſign in execution, but not rightly knowing the way into the houſe, they got to the ſide of a lane near it, waiting for an opportunity, and with that view tied their horſes againſt ſome furze buſhes, and concealing themſelves under them, intended to have ſurpriſed ſomebody paſſing by that way, and to have obliged them to have ſhewn them the way to the door; but whilſt they were thus lying perdue there, they heard ſeveral perſons riding along together which happened to be ſome of the neighbouring farmers, who had been at the juſtice's, and overhearing their diſcourſe, ſuppoſed the juſtice had other company ſtill remaining at his houſe, they did not think it adviſeable to attempt it at that time; therefore adjourned their deſign, which ſo far proved of advantage to them, that it prevented their being taken, which otherwiſe they could hardly have avoided, by reaſon they having been obſerved in the neighbourhood, were ſuſpected to be Smugglers, and information had been given to the cuſtom-houſe, and other officers thereabouts: And a party of dragoons were out in ſearch after them, whom they met, but not having any thing with them

were

were ſuffered to paſs; whereas if they had committed the robbery they intended, and been ſtopp'd by the ſoldiers, the goods upon ſearch would have been found upon them, and tho' they might have been only ſtopp'd on ſuſpicion of being ſmuglers, they would thereby be diſcovered to have been houſe-breakers, and committed accordingly.

Theſe tranſactions alarm'd the whole country, no body thinking themſelves ſafe; upon which Mr. *Thompſon*, one of the king's keepers, went to the duke of *Newcaſtle*'s office and obtain'd his majeſty's promiſe of a reward of one hundred pounds for whoever ſhould apprehend any of them; this made 'em lie a little more conceal'd, however ſome of the keepers, and others, having intelligence that they were all regaling themſelves at an ale-houſe in an alley at *Weſtminſter*, they purſued them thither, and burſting open the door found *Turpin*, *Fielder*, *Roſe* and *Wheeler*, and two women, *Fielder*, *Roſe* and *Wheeler*, after a ſtout reſiſtance, were taken, but *Turpin* made his eſcape out of a window, and taking his horſe rode away immediately; *Wheeler* made himſelf an evidence, and the other two were hang'd in chains.

The Gang was then broke, and *Turpin* quite left to himſelf, and notwithſtanding, he met with ſo many booties, yet his extravagance had pretty well dreined his pockets, he took a reſolution to be concerned in no other Gang, but to go on his own bottom, and with this view he ſet forward towards *Cambridge*, which he thought would be the beſt way, as he was not known in that county.

But before he reached his Journey's End, the following odd Encounter got him his beſt Companion, as he hath often declared. *King* the Highwayman, who had been towards *Cambridge* upon the ſame Account, was coming back to *London*. *Turpin* ſeeing him well mounted, and appear like a Gentleman, thought that was the Time to recruit his Pockets, and accordingly bids *King* Stand, who keeping him

in

in Diſcourſe ſome Time, and dallying with him, *Turpin* ſwore, if he did not deliver immediately he would ſhoot him through the Head, upon which *King* fell a Laughing, and ſaid, *What! Dog eat Dog? — Come, come, Brother* Turpin, *if you don't know me, I know you, and ſhould be glad of your Company.* After mutual Aſſurances of Fidelity to each other, and that nothing ſhould part them but Death, they agreed to go together upon ſome Exploit, and met with a ſmall Booty that very Day, after which they continued together, committing divers Robberies, for near three Years, till *King* wat ſhot.

King being very well known about the Country, as *Turpin* likewiſe was, inſomuch that as no Houſe would entertain them, they then formed the Deſign of making their Cave, and to that Purpoſe pitch'd upon a Place enclos'd with a large Thicket, ſituate between *Loughton* Road and *King's-Oak* Road; here they made a Place large enough to receive them and their Horſes; and while they lay quite concealed themſelves, could ſee through ſeveral Holes made on Purpoſe, what Paſſengers went by in either Road, and as they thought proper would iſſue out and rob them, in ſuch a bold daring Manner, and ſo frequently, that it was not Safe for any one to travel that Road, and the very Higlers were obliged to go armed. In this Cave they liv'd, eat, drank and lay; *Turpin's* Wife ſupplied them with Victuals, and frequently ſtay'd there all Night.

From the Foreſt, *King* and he once took a Ride to *Bungay* in *Suffolk*, where *Turpin* having ſeen two young Market-Women receive 13 or 14 l. for Corn, would rob them; *King* diſſuaded him from it, telling him they were two pretty Girls, and he would not be concerned in it. *Turpin* ſwore he would rob them and accordingly did, againſt the Conſent of *King* which occaſioned a Diſpute between them.

At their Return to their Cave they robb'd a Gentleman of *London*, one Mr. *Bradele*, at *Fairmaid-bottom*, who was taking an Airing in his Chariot,

with

with his two Children: *King* firſt attacked him; but he being a Gentleman of Spirit, was offering to make Reſiſtance, thinking there had been but one; upon which *King* called *Turpin* by the Nick-Name of *JACK*, and bid him hold the Horſes Heads; they took firſt his Money, which he then readily parted with, but inſiſted upon not giving his Watch, which he ſaid he would not part with; but the Child, in a Fright, perſuaded his Father to let them have it; they further inſiſting on an old Mourning Ring of ſmall Value, which Mr. *Bradele* humorouſly told them, that it was not worth eighteen Pence to them, but he priz'd it very much; *King* inſiſted upon having it off, which when he had he return'd it to him, ſaying they were more of Gentlemen than to take any Thing a Gentleman valu'd ſo much. Mr. *Bradele* asked him, If, as he had given him his Ring, he would let him purchaſe his Watch? Upon which *King* ſaid to *Turpin*, *Jack, here ſeems to be a good honeſt Fellow; ſhall we let him have the Watch? Ay*, ſays *Turpin, do juſt as you will*; —— and then Mr. *Bradele* enquiring what would be the Price, *King* told him, *Six Guineas, we never ſell one for more, if it be worth ſix and Thirty*; upon which Mr. *Bradele* promiſed not to diſcover them; and ſaid, he would *leave the Money at the* Dial *in* Birchin-Lane; when *Turpin* cryed out, *Ay, but* King, *Inſiſt upon no Queſtions ask'd.*

'Twas about that Time *Turpin* ſhot Mr. *Thompſon*'s Man in the following Manner; The Reward for apprehending him had ſet ſeveral on to attempt it; among the reſt, this Fellow would needs go in Company with a Higler; *Turpin* was unarmed, ſtanding alone, and, not knowing the Man, took him for one Poaching for Hares, and told him, He would get no Hares near that Thicket; No, ſays the Fellow, *but I have got a* Turpin, and preſented his Piece at him, commanding him to ſurrende; *Turpin* ſtood talking with him, and creeping up to his Cave, laid hold of his Carbine and ſhot him

Dead,

Dead, at which the Higler made off. This Man's Death obliged *Turpin* to make off precipitately; ſo he went farther into the Country, in ſearch of *King*, and ſent his Wife a Letter to meet him at a Publick-Houſe in *Hertford*, who accordingly went, with two of Squire *H*——*s*'s Servants; ſhe waited for him about half an Hour, and when he came to the Houſe he asked for her by a fictitious Name, left on Purpoſe, found ſhe was there, and going to her through the Kitchen, ſaw a Butcher to whom he owed five Pounds; the Butcher taking him aſide, *Come* Dick, ſays he, *I know you have Money now, if you'd pay me it will be of great Service.* *Turpin* reply'd, his Wife was in the next Room, and ſhe had Money, and he would get ſome of her and pay him preſently The Butcher appriz'd two or three then preſent who it was, and that he would get his five Pounds firſt, and then take him; but *Turpin*, inſtead of going to his Wife, jump'd out of the next Window, took Horſe, and went away immediately without ſeeing her, while the Butcher waited ſome Time in expectation of his having the five Pounds.

From hence he went to *King*, and one *Potter*, whom they had then lately taken along with them; they agreed to ſtay 'till it was Dark, and then ſet out for *London*, and coming over the Foreſt, within about three Hundred Yards of the *Green Man*, *Turpin*'s Horſe began to tire. They overtook one Mr. *Major*, owner of *White Stockings*, the Race-Horſe, and although they were ſo near the Houſes *Turpin* ventur'd to rob him, took from him his Whip; and afterwards, finding he had a better Horſe than his, made him diſmount and change, and ſtay till he changed Saddles likewiſe, and then rid towards *London*. Mr. *Major* got to the *Green-Man*, and acquainted Mr. *Bayes* of it, who immediately ſaid, *I dare ſwear 'tis* Turpin *has done it; or one of that Crew, and I'll endeavour to get Intelligence of your Horſe; this that they have left you is ſtole, and I would have you advertiſe it.* This was accordingly done,

and the Horſe prov'd to have been ſtole from *Plaiſtow* Marſhes; and the Saddle which he had kept, was ſtole from one *Arrowſmith*.

This Robbery was committed on Saturday Night, and on Monday following, Mr. *Bayes* received Intelligence, that ſuch a Horſe as Mr. *Major* had loſt, was left at the *Red Lyon*-Inn in *White-Chapple*; he accordingly went thither, and found it to be the ſame; and then reſolved to wait 'till ſomebody came to fetch it; Nobody came at the Time it was left for; but about Eleven o'Clock at Night, *King*'s Brother (as it afterwards proved) came for the Horſe, upon which they ſeized him immediately, and taking him into the Houſe, he ſaid, he bought it, and could produce Proof of it. But Mr. *Bayes* looking on the Whip in his Hand found the Button half broke off, and the Name *Major* upon it, ſeem'd a Confirmation of the Thing; they charg'd a Conſtable with him; but he ſeeming frightened, and they declaring, that they did not believe but that the Horſe was for ſomebody elſe, and if he would tell them where they waited, he ſhould be releaſed; he told them, there was a luſty Man in a white Duffell Coat waiting for it in *Red Lyon Street*. Mr. *Bayes* immediately went out, and finding him as directed, perceiv'd that it was *King*, and coming round upon him attack'd him; *King* immediately drew a Piſtol, which he clapp'd to Mr. *Bayes*'s Breaſt; but it luckily flaſh'd in the Pan; upon which *King* ſtruggling to get out his other, it had twiſted round his Pocket and he could not. *Turpin*, who was waiting not far off on Horſeback, hearing a Skirmiſh came up, when *King* cried out, *Dick, ſhoot him, or we are are taken by* G——*d*; at which Inſtant *Turpin* fir'd his Piſtol, and it miſt Mr. *Bayes* and ſhot *King* in two Places, who cried out, *Dick, you have kill'd me*; which *Turpin* hearing, he rode away as hard as he could. *King* fell at the Shot, though he liv'd a Week after, and gave *Turpin* the Character of a Coward, telling Mr. *Bayes*, that if he had a Mind to take him, he knew that he might then

be

be found at a *noted* Houſe by *Hackney* Marſh, and that when he rode away, he had three Brace of Piſtols about him, and a Carbine ſlung: Upon Enquiry, it has been found, that *Turpin* did actually go directly to the Houſe which *King* mentioned, and made uſe of ſomething like the following Expreſſions to the Man; *S—— What ſhall I do? Where ſhall I go? D——n that* Dick Bayes, *I'll be the Death of him; for I have loſt the beſt* Fellow-Man *I ever had in my Life; I ſhot poor* King *in endeavouring to kill that Dog.* The ſame Reſolution of Revenge he retained to the laſt, though without Means of effecting it.

After this he ſtill kept about the Foreſt, till he was harraſs'd almoſt to Death; for he had loſt his Place of Safety, the Cave, which was diſcovered upon his ſhooting the Keeper's Man; and when they found his Cave, there was in it two Shirts in a Bag, two Pair of Stockings, Part of a Bottle of Wine, and ſome Ham; ſo that being drove from thence, he ſculk'd about the Woods, and was once very near being taken, when Mr. *Ives*, the King's Huntſman, took out two *dry footed* Hounds to find him out; but he perceiving them coming, got up in a Tree, and ſeeing them go underneath him, was then ſo terrify'd at it, that he took a Reſolution of going away that Inſtant for *Yorkſhire*.

An Account of Richard Turpin *on his first Coming and Employment in* Yorkshire; *his Commitment to the House of Correction; his Examination, and Imprisonment in* York *Castle.*

TURPIN, who said his Name was *John Palmer*, came about two Years ago, out of *Lincolnshire* to *Brough*, near *Market-Cave* in *Yorkshire*, and staid for some Time at the Ferry House in *Brough*; from thence he went sometimes to live at *North-Cave*, and at other Times at *Welton*; and at these Places he continued about fifteen or sixteen Months, except at such Times as he went to see his Friends in *Lincolnshire*, at least that was his Pretence. At his Return from those Journeys he used frequently to bring three or four Horses with him, which he sold or swapp'd for others in *Yorkshire*. While he lived in this manner at *Brough*, *Cave*, and *Welton*, he often took his Diversion with the Gentlemen of the Country in Hunting and Shooting. Once, as he was returning from Shooting, which was the Beginning of *October* last, seeing one of his Landlord's Cocks in the Street, he shot at it, and kill'd it; which one *Hall*, his Neighbour, taking Notice of, said to him, *You have done Wrong Mr.* Palmer, *in shooting your Landlord's Cock.* To which *Palmer* replied, *If he would only stay whilst he charged his Piece, he would shoot him too.* Upon which *Hall* went and acquainted the Landlord with what *Palmer* had done and said. The Landlord thereupon immediately went with the said *Hall* to Justice *Crowle*, and obtain'd his Warrant for the apprehending the said *Palmer*; and the next Day, by Virtue of the said Warrant, he was taken into Custody, and convey'd before the Bench of Justices then sitting in their General Quarter Sessions at *Beverley*, and examin'd by the Justices of the *East-Riding* of *Yorkshire*; who demanding Sureties for his Good Behaviour, and he refusing to find any, they committed him to the House of Correction; which Commitment was in the Words following,

To the Maſter, or Keeper, of the Houſe of Correction in Beverley;

WHEREAS it appears to us, upon the Information of divers creditable Perſons, That *John Palmer*, of *Welton* in the *Eaſt-Riding* in the County of *York*, is a very dangerous Perſon, and we having required Sureties for his good Behaviour until the next General Quarter Seſſions of the Peace, to be held for the *Eaſt-Riding* of the County of *York*, which he the ſaid *John Palmer* hath refuſed to find; Theſe are therefore to command you, to receive into Cuſtody the Body of the ſaid *John Palmer*, and him ſafely keep, until he ſhall be diſcharged by due Courſe of Law; and hereof fail not at your Peril.

Given under our Hands and Seals the third Day of *October*, 1738.

Some Perſons of *Brough* and *Welton* having given their Informations to the Juſtices, that *Palmer* frequently went into *Lincolnſhire*, and uſually return'd with Plenty of Money, and ſeveral Horſes, which he ſold or exchanged in *Yorkſhire*; and therefore had good Reaſon to ſuſpect that he was either a Highwayman or Horſe-ſtealer; and being deſirous to do their Country Juſtice, and detect Villainy; for theſe Reaſons the Juſtices, the next Day, went to the ſaid *John Palmer*, and demanded of him, who he was, where he had lived, and what was, or had been his Employment? To which he thus anſwer'd, 'That 'about two Years ago he had lived at *Long-Sutton* in 'Lincolnſhire, and was by Trade a Butcher; that his 'Father then lived at *Long-Sutton*, and his Siſter 'kept his Father's Houſe there; but he having con-'tracted a great many Debts, for Sheep that proved 'rotten, in ſo much that he was not able to pay for 'them, he was therefore obliged to abſcond, and come and live in *Yorkſhire*.'

Upon this Confeſſion, the Juſtices thought it highly neceſſary to ſend a Meſſenger into *Lincolnſhire*

to

to examine in to the Truth of it, and accordingly order'd Mr. *Appleton*, the Clerk of the Peace, to write a Letter to *Long-Sutten*, and therein relate the whole Affair. This Letter they ſent by a Special Meſſenger, who gave it to Mr. *Delamere*, a Juſtice of the Peace, who lived at the ſame Place. The Anſwer that Mr. *Delamere* return'd to this Letter, was as follows; 'That the ſaid *John Palmer* had lived there about 'three Quarters of a Year, and was accuſed before 'him of Sheep-ſtealing; whereupon he iſſued out 'his Warrant againſt him, who was thereupon ap-'prehended, but made his Eſcape from the Con-'ſtable; and ſoon after ſuch his Eſcape, Mr. *Dela-'mere* had ſeveral Informations lodged before him 'againſt the ſaid *Palmer* for Suſpicion of Horſe-'ſtealing: And that *Palmer*'s Father did not live at '*Long-Sutton*, neither did he know where he lived, 'therefore deſired *Palmer* might be ſecured, and he 'would make farther Enquiry about the Horſe ſo 'ſtolen, and would bind over ſome Perſons to pro-'ſecute him at the next Aſſizes.

Mr. *Appleton*, on the Receipt of this Letter from Mr. *Delamere*, immediately ſent a Letter to Mr. *Crowle*, who the next Morning, came to *Beverley*, and underſtanding what a Villain *Palmer* was, he did not think it was ſafe he ſhould any longer ſtay in *Beverley* Houſe of Correction, and therefore he was again required to find Sureties; which he not being able to do, his Commitment was made to *York Caſtle*, and he accordingly was ſent the ſame Morning, namely, *October* the 16th 1738, to the ſaid Priſon, hand-cuff'd, and guarded by *John Milner* and *George Smith*, who, purſuant to their Orders, convey'd him to *York Caſtle*. When *Palmer* had been a Priſoner in *York Caſtle* about a Month, two Perſons out of *Lincolnſhire*, came and claimed a Mare and Foal, which *Palmer* had ſold to Capt. *Dawſon* of *Ferraby*, and likewiſe the Horſe on which *Palmer* rode when he came firſt to *Beverley*, affirming that he had ſtolen it from them off *Hickington Fen* in *Lincolnſhire*. After he had been a Priſoner

ſoner in *York Caſtle* about four Months, he was diſcover'd to be *Turpin*, the noted Highwayman, as before related.

A Summary Account of the Trial of John Palmer, *alias* Paumer, *alias* Richard Turpin, *at the Aſſizes holden at the Caſtle of* York, March 22d, 1738-9, *before the Hon. Sir* William Chapple, *Knt. one of his Majeſty's Juſtices of the* King's Bench,

JOHN *Palmer*, *alias*, &c. was indicted for ſtealing a Black Mare and Foal at *Welton*, in the County of *York*, on or before the firſt Day of this Inſtant *March*, the Property of *Thomas Creaſey*.

Thomas Place, Eſq; Recorder of the City of *York*, and *Richard Crowle*, of the *Inner Temple*, Eſq; being Council for the King, open'd the Nature of the Indictment, and examin'd the Witneſſes, the firſt of whom, *Thomas Creaſey* (the Owner of the Mare) gave Evidence as follows, *viz.* That he liv'd at *Heckington* in the County of *Lincoln*; that his Mare fed on *Heckington-Common*; that on the 18th or 19th of *Auguſt* laſt, miſſing them, he hired Men and Horſes, and rode forty Miles round about enquiring after them, and had 'em cried in all the Market Towns thereabouts; and the firſt News he heard of them was from one *John Baxter*, a Neighbour, who told him, he had been at *Pocklington* Fair in *Yorkſhire*, and lying all Night at *Brough*, he happened to hear of a Man that was taken up and ſent to the Houſe of Correction at *Beverley* for ſhooting a Game Cock, who had ſuch a Mare and Foal as this Witneſs had loſt. Upon which Information he went to *Ferraby*, near *Beverley*, and put up his Horſe at *Richard Graſsby's*, who keeps a publick Houſe there; and began to enquire of him about his Mare and Foal. *Graſsby* told him there was ſuch a Mare and Foal in their Neighbourhood; which, by the Deſcription he

gave

gave of 'em, ſeem'd to be this Witneſſes's; who thereupon deſcrib'd 'em to him with their particular Marks.

After *Creaſy* had thus given his Evidence, the Court demanded of the Priſoner if he had any Queſtions to ask the Witneſs? The Priſoner anſwer'd, that he had no Witneſſes come that Day, as he expected, and therefore begg'd his Lordſhip to put off his Trial till another Day. But was told, that if he had ſpoke, and deſired a reaſonable Time before the Jury was ſworn and charged, it might have been granted him; but it was now too late, and the Jury could not be diſcharged; but he might ask the Witneſs any Queſtions. Upon which the Priſoner ſaid, that this Witneſs was wrong, becauſe on the 18th of *Auguſt* he was in *York* Caſtle. But the Goaler being call'd, inform'd the Court, that it was *October* fore *Palmer* was committed Priſoner to the Caſtle. The Priſoner then ask'd *Creaſy*, if he knew one *Whitehad*; and he replying, yes; why then, ſaid he, he's the Man I bought the Mare and Foal of.

The ſecond Witneſs, Captain *Dawſon*, depos'd as follows. I was one Morning riding to *Welton*, and met a Man leading a Mare and Foal; I ask'd him if they were his? He told me, no; but they belonged to one *Palmer*. I ask'd him, if he would diſpoſe of the Foal? He ſaid, *Palmer* was coming up the Street. I turned about and ſaw him; and he told me they were his, and were bred in *Lincolnſhire*. I ask'd, if he would diſpoſe of the Foal? He ſaid, he would rather ſell the Mare with her. I replied, I had no Occaſion for the Mare, only the Foal, and ask'd the Price of that? He ſaid, Three Guineas. I told him, it was too much to ask for the Foal, and offer'd him Two Guineas, and ſaid, I would give no more, upon which I went about my Buſineſs, and afterwards I obſerved the Priſoner coming up a Hill with a Mare and Foal; and as I was going along, a Countryman ſaid, Sir, you have been about bargaining, and bid two Guineas for the Foal; you'll ſee him come back again,

again, and, if you pleaſe, I fancy you may have it. I ſaid, let him come to my Houſe, and I will pay him two Guineas. So about two o'Clock in the Afternoon, *Palmer* came with the Mare and Foal, and I had them put both in a Stable, and paid for the Foal two Guineas; and then he told me, I might buy the Mare, for ſhe was worth the Money. I ſaid I had no Occaſion for the Mare; but the Priſoner being a little preſſing about, it, I told him I had a Horſe of no great Value, and if he would change or let me have the Mare to nurſe the Foal, I would rather do it. He did not like the firſt Propoſal, but I told him I would not take the Mare except he would have the Horſe; ſo I gave him four Guineas; but being obliged to go to my Regiment, I left the Place after, and gave *Richard Graſsby* the Care of the Mare, with Liberty to work her. To all which the Priſoner had nothing to reply.

Richard Graſsby the third Witneſs, depos'd, that he had known the Priſoner about two Years; knew of no ſettled Way of Living he had; and though a Dealer, yet he was a Stranger, and lived like a Gentleman. Said, he had the Mare and Foal of Captain *Dawſon*; that he work'd her; and that ſhe had been challenged by *Thomas Creaſy*.

George Goodyear, the fourth Witneſs gave an Account of the Time when the Mare and Foal were loſt, and that they were the ſame which the Priſoner had ſold to Captain *Dawſon*.

The Priſoner being ask'd by the Court, how he came by the Mare and Foal, thus anſwer'd: I was going up to *Lincolnſhire* to *John Whitehead*; there was a Mare and Foal before his Door. This was within a Mile of *Hickington*. The Man had been at a Fair, and bought a Mare and Foal, and wanted to ſell them again. This was in *Auguſt*: I asked the Price and gave him ſeven Guineas for Mare and Colt; he gave me half a Crown; I ſtaid all Night, and came away next Morning. I went to all Markets, and wherever I went I rode with

'em, without ever being challenged. I have ſent a *Subpœna* to a Man and his Wife, who were preſent when I bought them. I cannot tell his Name, and therefore deſire a longer Time that theſe Witneſſes may be examined. I alſo ſent a ſpecial Meſſenger with a Letter.

[Mr. *Griffith* the Goaler, being called, ſaid, *The Meſſenger is come back.*]

The Priſoner being ask'd what he had to ſay to that? He was ſilent.

Being ask'd, if he had any Witneſſes preſent? Said, he had not, but To-morrow he ſhould; and he was ſure no Man could lay any Ill to his Charge in *Yorkſhire*; however, he deſired the following Perſons might be call'd, *viz. William Thompſon*, Eſq; one *Whitehead*, and one *Gill*; but none of them appearing; and being told the Jury could not ſtay, he ſaid, I thought I ſhould have been remov'd to *Eſſex*; for I did not expect to be tried in this County; therefore I could not prepare Witneſſes to my Character.

The Judge then gave his Charge to the Jury.

Being ask'd how he came to change his Name, he ſaid, his Reaſon was, that having been long out of Trade, and run himſelf in Debt, he changed his Name to his Mother's, which was *Palmer*; and that before he came into *Lincolnſhire*, his Name was *Richard Turpin*.

The Jury, without going out, brought in their Verdict, *Guilty*.

John Palmer, alias, *&c.* was a ſecond Time indicted for ſtealing a Black Gelding, the Property of *Thomas Creaſey*: The Fact being plainly proved, and the Priſoner having nothing to ſay in his Defence, the Jury found him guilty of the Indictment.

To prove that this *Palmer* was *Richard Turpin* the noted Highwayman, Mr. *James Smith* and Mr. *Edward Seward* who went to *York* Aſſizes from *Eſſex*, by Order of the Juſtices of that County, being

ing call'd upon to give their Evidence, depos'd as follows. And firſt Mr. *James Smith*, being ſworn, gave this Account, That he knew the Priſoner at the Bar ever ſince he was a Child; that his Name was *Richard Turpin*, and that he was born at *Hempſtead* in *Eſſex*; that he knew his Father, and all his Relations, and that he married one of his (this Deponent's) Father's Maids. That it was about five Years ſince he ſaw him laſt, that he taught him to write for about three Quarters of a Year. That the Occaſion of his (this Deponents') coming to *York* Aſſizes was this: Happening to be at the Poſt-Office, he ſaw a Letter directed to *Turpin*'s Brother-in-Law, who, as it was ſaid, would not looſe (or open) the Letter and pay Poſtage; and on that Account taking particular Notice thereof, he thought at firſt he remember'd the Superſcription, and concluded it to be the Hand writing of the Priſoner *Turpin*; whereupon he carried the Letter before a Magiſtrate, who broke it open (the Letter was ſubſcribed *John Palmer*) and found it ſent from *York* Caſtle. This Deponent knew his Hand, having ſeen ſeveral of *Dick Turpin*'s Bills. *A Letter being produced in Court, he was ask'd whether it was* Turpin's *Letter?* He anſwer'd, it was, and that this was the Cauſe of his coming down; and the Reaſon of his taking Notice of it was, his ſeeing the *York* Stamp upon the Letter. That on his coming to *York* Caſtle, on the firſt View of him, he pointed him out from all the reſt of the Priſoners. And further; he knew him when he work'd with his Father, who was a Butcher, which Trade he, the Son afterwards ſet up at *Booker's Hill* in *Eſſex*, left it about ſix Years ſince, and then kept a Publick Houſe; but what became of him afterwards he knew not, only the laſt Time he ſaw him, which was about five Years ago, he ſold him (the Priſoner,) a Grey Mare; and knew him to be the very *Richard Turpin*, the very Son of *John Turpin* of the Town of *Hempſtead*.

Mr. *Saward*, the other Perſon from *Eſſex*, being ask'd by the Court what he knew concerning the Priſoner, depos'd as follows: I have known the Priſoner about two and twenty Years, he was born at the *Bell*, his Father kept a Publick Houſe. I knew him after he was ſet up, and have bought a great many good Joints of Meat of him. I ſaw him frequently at *Hempſtead*, and was with him often at his Houſe there, and after he left it he came backwards and forwards. The laſt Time I ſew him was about five or ſix Years ago; and I know the Priſoner at the Bar to be *Dick Turpin*, the Son of *John Turpin*, who keeps the *Bell* at *Hempſtead*. When I ſpoke to him in the Caſtle I knew him again, and he confeſs'd he knew me, and ſaid to me two or three Times, *Let us hung our Eyes in Drink* and I drank with him.

Turpin denied that he knew this *Edward Saward* but ſeem'd at laſt to own rhat he had ſome Knowledge of *Smith*.

COPY of a Letter from *Richard Turpin* after his Condemnation to his Father.

Dear and honoured Father, York Caſtle March 24, 1739.

THE Witneſſes I call'd to my Character was William Thompſon, *Eſq*; *Mr.* Whitehead *and Mr.* Gill, *who not being ſo kind to appear as I expected, I have the Misfortune to acquaint you, that was I convicted the Day before Yeſterday at the Aſſizes, and am to ſuffer the 7th of* April *next for Horſe ſtealing, if you, have any Love remaining for your once dear Son. I hope either you or my Brother will go to Colonel* Watſon *or Madam* Peck, *and if poſſible prevail on them to intercede for me, that I may get it off for Tranſportation; I have no other Hopes left but this, and this my laſt Petition.*

From your unfortunate Son,

Richard Turpin.

COPY

COPY of a Letter from *John Turpin* to his Son *Richard Turpin*, Priſoner in *York* Caſtle.

Dear Child, March 29, 1739.

I *Received your Letter this Inſtant, with a great deal of Grief; according to your Requeſt, I have writ to your Brother* John, *and Madam* Peck, *to make what interceſſion can be made to Colonel* Watſon, *in order to obtain Tranſportation for your Misfortune; which had I* 100 *l. I would freely part with it to do you Good; in the mean Time my Prayers for you, and for God's Sake, give your whole Mind to beg of God to pardon your many Tranſgreſſions, which the Thief upon the Croſs received Pardon for at the laſt Hour, though a very great Offender. The Lord be your Comfort, and receive you into his eternal Kingdom.*

I am your diſtreſs'd, yet Loving Father,

Hempſtead, John Turpin.

P. S. *All our Loves to you, who are in much Grief to ſubſcribe our Selves your diſtreſſed Brother and Siſter with Relations.*

COPY of a Letter from *John Turpin* Senior, to *John Turpin* Junior his Son, being the ſame referred to in the foregoing, to his Son *Richard.*

Dear Son, Hemſtead, Mar. 29, 1739.

I *Received a Letters from your Brother* Richard, *the* 27*th Inſtant, dated* March 24, *and heis to ſuffer the* 7*th of* April, *which is on* Saturday *Sevennight at* York, *on the Suſpicion of ſtealing a Horſe, or elſe a Mare, his Evidences not appearing according to Promiſe. And now his laſt Petitions are, that I or you, would go to Colonel* Watſon *in order to obtain Tranſportation. Tho' he hath been remiſs in many Things, yet let your Bowels of Compaſſion yearn towards him.*

Id

I'd have you, as abovementioned, and be as quick as poſſible. We are all at preſent in Health, but deeply concerned to acquaint you with this, from your

Dear Father,

John Turpin.

A Copy of the Letter by Means of which he was diſcover'd to be the Real Turpin, *and which occaſion'd Mr.* Smith *the Writing-Maſter's going to* York.

Dear Brother, *York, Feb.* 6, 1738.

I AM ſorry to acquaint you that I am now under confinement in *York Caſtle*, for horſe-nealing. If I could procure any evidences from *London*, to give me a character, that would go a great way towards my being acquitted; I have not been long in this county before my being apprehended, ſo that it would paſs off the readier; for Heaven's ſake, dear Brother, don't neglect me, you'll know what I mean when I ſay

I am Yours,

JOHN PALMER.

His Behaviour in York Caſtle.

THE near Approach of Death, generally cauſes the moſt awful Apprehenſions, even in Perſons whoſe Lives have been governed with the greateſt Rectitude, and whoſe Conſciences are not burden'd with the Guilt of any wilful Tranſgreſſions. It is therefore infinitely ſurprizing that Men, who, for many Years ſucceſſively, have employ'd all their Talents and Endeavours in robbing, plundering, and deſtroying the Lives and Properties of their Fellow Creatures, ſhould, without any Emotion or

Concern

Concern, be able to look Death in the Face, contemn the Horrors of that gloomy Hour, and launch out into the boundleſs Orean of Eternity, without making the leaſt Proviſion for ſo long and hazardous a Voyage. To what Cauſes can this unaccountable Phrenzy, or rather, Stupifaction, be imputed? They muſt either have work'd themſelves into a firm Perſuaſion that there is no God to take Cognizance of their Actions; that there are no Rewards or Puniſhments hereafter; or elſe their Conſciences, by a long Courſe of vicious Practices, are ſo harden'd and ſtupified, that it is impoſſible for the Precepts of Religion, and the Conſiderations of a Future State, to make any Impreſſions upon them. For even the Light of Nature informs us of the Difference between Right and Wrong; that we have no Title to the Property of another Man; and that in depriving him of it, we do him a poſitive Injury. Juſtice and Injuſtice are wrote in indelable Characters on the Mind of Man; and whenever he attempts to eraze or blot them out, it is a manifeſt and ſenſible Violence upon the Conſcience; but if this Violence be often repeated, Conſcience will at length loſe its active Faculty, and in Time be quite dormant. This, we may reaſonably ſuppoſe, was the Caſe of the unhappy *Turpin*; who though one of the moſt notorious Offenders, that this Age has produc'd; yet, after Sentence of Death was paſs'd upon him, was as jovial, as merry, and as frolickſome, as if he had been perfectly at Liberty, and aſſured of an hundred Years of Proſperity to come; and went off the Stage with as much Intrepidity and Unconcern as if he had been taking Horſe to go a Journey.

But to come to ſome Particulars. *Turpin* being committed Priſoner to *York* Caſtle, as has been before related, liv'd in as much Pleaſure as the Liberties of the Priſon would afford, eating, drinking, and carouſing, with any Body that would ſpend their Time with him. Neither did he alter his Behaviour even after his Condemnation. After it was rumour'd abroad

broad, that he was the *Turpin*, who had render'd himself so notorious for his Robberies in the Southern Parts of *England*, abundance of People from all Parts resorted daily to see him. It being about that Time a subject very much disputed in all Companies and Conversations whether this Man was the real individual *Turpin*, the Highwaymen or not, a certain young Gentleman, who pretended to know him, went one Day to see him, to satisfy himself if he was the very Man, as reported, and having view'd him very circumspectly, he told the Keeper he would lay him a Wager of Half a Guinea, that this Man was not *Turpin*. Which *Turpin* hearing, whisper'd the Keeper in the Ear, *Lay him the Wager; I'll go your Halves.*

He continu'd his mirthful Humour to the last, spending his Time in joking, drinking. and telling Stories. He seem'd to pay but little Regard to the serious Remonstrances and Admonitions of the Reverend Clergymen who attended him, and whatever Remorse he had upon his Conscience, for his past Villainies, he kept it to himself, not expressing the least Concern at the melancholy Circumstances he was in.

A few Days before his Execution, he bought himself a new Fustian Frock and a Pair of Pumps, in order to take his Leave of the World in as decent a Manner as he possibly could.

The Manner of his Behaviour at the Place of Execution.

THE Morning before *Turpin*'s Execution he gave 3 *l.* 10 *s.* amongst five Men, who were to follow the Cart as Mourners, with Hatbands and Gloves, and gave Gloves and Hatbands to several Persons more. He also left a Gold Ring, and two Pair of Shoes and Clogs to a married Woman at *Brough*, that he was acquainted with; though he at the same Time acknowledg'd he had a Wife and Child of his own.

He was carried in a Cart to the Place of Execution, on *Saturday*, *April* 7th, 1739, with *John Stead*, condemn'd alſo for Horſe-Stealing; he behav'd himſelf with amazing Aſſurance, and bow'd to the Spectators as he paſs'd: It was remarkable that as he mounted the Ladder, his Right Leg trembled, on which he ſtamp'd it down with an Air, and with undaunted Courage look'd round about him; and after ſpeaking near Half an Hour to the Topſman, threw himſelf off the Ladder, and expired in about five Minutes.

His Corpſe was brought back from the Gallows about Three in the Afternoon, and lodged at the *Blue Boar* in *Caſtlegate*, 'till Ten the next Morning, when it was buried in a neat Coffin in St. *George's* Church-Yard without *Fiſhergate* Poſtern, with this Inſcription, *J. R.* 1739, *R. T.* aged 28 *. The Grave was dug very deep, and the Perſons whom he appointed his Mourners, as above-mention'd, took all poſſible Care to ſecure the Body; notwithſtanding which on *Tueſday* Morning, about three o'Clock, ſome Perſons were diſcover'd to be moving off the Body, which they had taken up; and the Mob having got Scent where it was carried to, and ſuſpecting it was to be anatomiz'd, went to a Garden in which it was depoſited, and brought away the Body through the Streets of the City, in a Sort of Triumph, almoſt naked, being only laid on a Board, cover'd with ſome Straw, and carried on four Men's Shoulders, and buried it in the ſame Grave, having firſt fill'd the Coffin with ſlack'd Lime.

* He confeſs'd to the Hangman, that he was 33 Years of Age.

F I N I S.

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